

53

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2013-2014)**

FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING & FISHERIES)**

**OPTIMIZATION OF EMPLOYMENT GENERATION POTENTIAL OF ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY SECTOR**

**{Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/
Recommendations contained in the Thirty-sixth Report
of the Committee on Agriculture (2011-2012)}**

FIFTY-THIRD REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

December 2013 / Agrahayana, 1935 (Saka)

FIFTY – THIRD REPORT

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2013-2014)**

(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING & FISHERIES)**

**OPTIMIZATION OF EMPLOYMENT GENERATION POTENTIAL OF ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY SECTOR**

**(Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/
Recommendations contained in the Thirty - sixth Report of the Committee on
Agriculture (2011-2012)**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 09.12.2013

Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 09.12.2013



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

December 2013 / Agrahayana, 1935 (Saka)

COA No. 276

Price: Rs.

© 2012 By Lok Sabha Secretariat

Published under Rule 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Fourteenth Edition) and Printed by

CONTENTS

	PAGE
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE.....	(iii)
INTRODUCTION.....	(v)
CHAPTER I Report	1
CHAPTER II Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government	22
CHAPTER III Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies	48
CHAPTER IV Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee	50
CHAPTER V Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited	61

ANNEXURES

I. Minutes of the 5 th Sitting of the Committee held on 29 October, 2013.	63
II. Analysis of Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the Thirty-sixth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Agriculture (2011-2012).	65

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (2013-14)

Shri Basudeb Acharia - Chairman

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Narayansingh Amlabe
3. Shri Sanjay Singh Chauhan
4. Shri H.D. Devegowda
5. Smt. Ashwamedh Devi
6. Shri L. Raja Gopal
7. Smt. Paramjit Kaur Gulshan
8. Shri Anant Kumar Hegde
9. Shri Premdas Katheria
10. Shri P. Kumar
11. Smt. Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi
12. Sardar Sukhdev Singh Libra
13. Dr. Jyoti Mirdha
14. Shri Kachhadia Naranbhai
15. Shri Devji M. Patel
16. Smt. Bhavana Gawali (Patil)
17. Shri Jagdish Singh Rana
18. Shri Rajaiah Siricilla
19. Shri Patel Kishanbhai V.
20. Dr. Vinay Kumar Pandey 'Vinnu'
21. Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

22. Shri N. Balaganga
23. Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi
24. Smt. Mohsina Kidwai
25. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan
26. Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao
27. Shri Parshottam Khodabhai Rupala
28. Shri Rajpal Singh Saini
29. Shri S. Thangavelu
30. Shri Shivanand Tiwari
31. Shri Darshan Singh Yadav

(iii)

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Louis Martin - Joint Secretary
2. Shri P. C. Koul - Director
3. Shri Pragyanshu Amaoni - Committee Officer

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Standing Committee on Agriculture (2013-2014) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the report on their behalf, present this Fifty-third Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Thirty-sixth Report of the Committee on Optimization of Employment Generation Potential of Animal Husbandry Sector pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries).

2. The Thirty-sixth Report of the Committee on Agriculture (2011-2012) on Optimization of Employment Generation Potential of Animal Husbandry Sector pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries) was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 22 May, 2012. The Action Taken Replies on the Report were received on 21 August, 2012.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 29 October, 2013.

4. An analysis of the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Thirty-sixth Report of the Committee is given in **Annexure- II**.

NEW DELHI;
29 November, 2013
08 Agrahayana, 1935 (Saka)

BASUDEB ACHARIA
Chairman,
Committee on Agriculture

CHAPTER I

REPORT

This Report of the Committee on Agriculture deals with the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-sixth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Agriculture (2011-12) on the Subject, "Optimization of Employment Generation Potential of Animal Husbandry Sector" pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) which was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 22 May, 2012.

1.2 The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries have furnished Action Taken Replies in respect of all the 23 Observations / Recommendations contained in the Report. These have been categorized as under:-

- (i) Observations / Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government:

Recommendation Nos. 1.14, 2.44, 2.45, 2.46, 2.48, 2.49, 2.51, 2.52, 2.53, 2.54, 3.29, 3.30, 3.31, 3.33, 3.34 and 3.35. (Chapter – II)
Total - 16

- (ii) Observations / Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply:

Recommendation Nos. 3.32 (Chapter – III)
Total - 01

- (iii) Observations / Recommendations in respect of which action taken replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee:

Recommendation Nos. 1.15, 1.16, 2.47, 2.55 and 2.56 (Chapter – IV)
Total - 05

- (iv) Observations / Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited:

Recommendation Nos. 2.50 (Chapter – V)
Total - 01

1.3 The Committee trust that utmost importance would be given to implementation of the Observations/Recommendations accepted by the Government. In cases, where it is not possible for the Government to implement the Recommendations in letter and spirit for any reason, the matter should be reported to the Committee with reasons for non-implementation. The Committee desire that further Action Taken Notes on the Observations/Recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Final Action Taken Reply to the Recommendation contained in Chapter-V of this Report be furnished to them at an early date.

1.4 The Committee will now deal with the action taken by the Government on some of the Recommendations in the succeeding paragraphs.

ALLOCATION DURING ELEVENTH PLAN

(Recommendation Para Nos. 1.15 And 1.16)

1.5 Noting that the Animal Husbandry and Dairying sector which was already contributing a significant 4.89% in the national GDP still had a lot of untapped employment potential, and worried to note that the allocations and investments in this sector throughout the Eleventh Plan period remained far below the levels required for its growth as the Approved Outlay during the Eleventh Year Plan at Rs. 9,466.17 crore, was a mere 34.67% of the proposed amount, the Committee had urged the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries and the Planning Commission to work in unison so that the yawning gap between the projections and approved outlays is reduced to a great extent in the course of the Twelfth Plan period. Further finding that during the Eleventh Year Plan, the actual expenditure had always been less than the actual allocation and the Department could not provide any valid reason for the same, the Committee had opined that unless the Department first put their house in order, the

gap between allocation and expenditure will not narrow down. Accordingly, with a view to benefit the targeted beneficiaries as well as ensure optimum utilization of funds, the Committee had recommended the Department to furnish their utilization certificates and fresh proposals in time for smooth disbursement of funds throughout the year.

1.6 The Government in their Action Taken Note have stated that the year-wise allocation of Animal Husbandry and Dairy Sector has increased substantially as per the table given below. However the expenditure was less, though it has gone up in Financial Year 2010-11 and 2011-12. The Plan allocation of Animal Husbandry Sector of this Department for the year 2012-13 is 21.64% higher than the allocation for 2011-12.

(Rs. in crore)				
Year	Approved outlay	RE	Expenditure	% of Exp. w.r.t. RE
11th Plan (2007-2012)	5023.00			
2007-08	529.42	466.71	484.98	104%
2008-09	619.00	593.61	548.87	92%
2009-10	720.50	577.60	534.04	92%
2010-11	935.91	874.39	762.41	87%
2011-12	1196.81	1010.39	945.36	94%
TOTAL	4001.64	3522.70	3275.66	
2012-13	1527.30			

1.7 In addition to the allocation for this sector in budget of the Department, the livestock sector is also getting the funding support under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) which is implemented by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) which

results in the enhancement of the share of Plan allocation for this sector. The details of Year wise / Sector wise summary of approved projects in the Eleventh Plan for Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development under RKVY for activities in Animal Husbandry and Dairying sector is given in the following table:

(Rs. in crore)			
Year	Animal Husbandry	Dairy Development	Total
2007-08	104.80	56.76	161.56
2008-09	666.31	203.45	869.76
2009-10	712.02	154.85	866.87
2010-11	734.71	333.36	1068.07
2011-12	847.31	281.58	1128.89
TOTAL	3065.15	1030.00	4095.15

1.8 Apart from the above, National Mission on Protein Supplements (NMPS) was launched in the year 2011-12 in 22 identified States as a component of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, with an outlay of Rs. 300 Crore. Of which, the outlay for Animal Husbandry was earmarked to the tune of Rs. 200 crore. The objective of this programme is to increase production of animal protein in order to meet rising demand for these products. In the year 2012-13, an amount of Rs. 500 crore has been allocated under different components of NMPS of which, the outlay for animal husbandry has been earmarked to Rs. 300 crore.

1.9 Thus, under RKVY and NMPS, an amount of about Rs. 4,295.15 crore was allocated for Animal Husbandry and Dairying Sector during Eleventh Plan in addition to the approved outlay of Rs. 4,001.64 crore for this Department.

1.10 In the context of the observation of the Standing Committee that the expenditure has been less than allocation, the Department are constantly taking up the matter with States to expense utilization of funds and submission of utilization certificates. The Department is regularly monitoring the progress on implementation of Schemes and the utilization of funds by States through video conferencing and visits by the senior officers of this Department to States and review meetings from time to time. During 2011-12, the expenditure through releases made by the Department was about 94% of the RE compared to 87% of previous year.

1.11 In order to liquidate to unspent balances, the Department are constantly taking up the matter with the State Governments to take urgent action to reduce the unspent balance with the States. The recommendations of the Committee for the Department to take steps, to improve the pace of utilization of funds are noted and necessary steps will be taken to improve the utilization by strengthening the monitoring mechanism further. The constraints for improving utilization of funds will be removed while revising the schemes for the Twelfth Plan period.

1.12 The Committee are not at all convinced by the reply of the Government about the funding requirements of animal husbandry and dairying sectors being met from schemes run by other departments. The Thirty-sixth Report of the Committee was on the 'Optimization of the Employment Potential of Animal Husbandry Sector' with specific reference to the Schemes and activities of the Department of Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries. The observations/recommendations of the Committee were also accordingly made in the context of Department specific schemes and activities. It can also not be overlooked that the Department in successive appearances before the Committee during the examination of their Demands for Grants have been impressing upon

enhancement of their budgetary allocation. The Committee, therefore, while disagreeing with the reply of the Department reiterate that the schemes of the Department for Animal Husbandry sector ought not be starved for funds so that they are able to deliver optimally and the Department and the Planning Commission should strive for that.

IMBALANCED GROWTH OF INDIGENOUS / CROSS BREED CATTLE

(Recommendation Para No. 2.47)

1.13 The Committee observed that as per the figures of the livestock census carried out in the year 2007, the population of exotic/crossbred cattle had increased by 33.92% in comparison to the 2003 census, while the population of indigenous variety had increased by only 3.44% and the population of buffalo had witnessed a growth of 7.58%. Since a majority of Indian agriculturists are small and marginal farmers who due to their small land holdings are at the bottom rung of the economical ladder and thus cannot afford to raise and maintain the expensive exotic/crossbred cattle. The Committee urged the Department to undertake a slew of measures which would result in a remarkable increase in the population of indigenous cattle inspite of their milk output being less, their maintenance cost is low and they are more in tune with the environment.

1.14 The Government in their Action Taken Note have stated that in order to improve the genetic makeup of bovine population and availability of indigenous cattle, Government of India has launched a major programme “National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding” (NPCBB) from October 2000. NPCBB emphasizes genetic upgradation of non-descriptive cattle and development / conservation of indigenous breeds. In addition to this, Government of India is also implementing three Central

Sector Schemes namely, Central Cattle Breeding Farms (CCBFs), Central Frozen Semen Production & Training Institute (CFSP&TI) and Central Herd Registration Scheme (CHRS) for development of bovine population. All the Schemes give special emphasis and support for enhancing productivity and quality of indigenous breeds of cattle and buffalo. Under these schemes, there is a component of training of farmers to support these activities. Generally breeding policies of the States aim to preserve and improve the quality indigenous breeds through artificial insemination using semen of the quality bulls of the same breed.

1.15 The scheme CCBFs promotes indigenous breeds like Red Sindhi & Tharparkar cattle breeds and Surti & Murrah buffalo breeds which have excellent productivity potential. These farms provide elite germplasm and training to the farmers for promotion of these breeds. Incentives are also made available to the farmers of finally registered animals under CHRS.

1.16 The Committee are not at all impressed by the various steps enumerated by the Department in the direction of increasing the population of quality indigenous breed of cattle and buffalo. The statistics speak for themselves. The population of exotic/cross bred cattle, which are capital intensive and fall prey to diseases, etc. have shown an increase of 33.92%. These are unaffordable for the small and marginal farmers who form the majority of agriculture sector. The indigenous breeds which though yield less milk are very affordable to rear and and are adapted well to the local environment have increased by only 3.44%. This paltry increase in the population of the indigenous breeds is indicative of the failure of the measures enumerated by the Government in their Action Taken Reply. The Committee, therefore, desire that since the extant schemes of the Department viz. CCBFs, CFSP&TI and CHRS have not produced desired results

as far as the increase in the population of quality indigenous breeds of cattle and buffaloes is concerned they be overhauled without any further delay to make them more effective and fruitful.

EMPLOYMENT POTENTIAL OF LIVESTOCK SECTOR

(Recommendation Para No. 2.50)

1.17 Noting that there have been no systematic and specific studies on the level of employment and its potential in the livestock sector and there had been no detailed studies on the labour requirement for rearing cattle and buffaloes inspite of cogent pointers that in rural areas 61 females are primarily engaged in animal farming as against 21 males per thousand work force; In urban areas these figures are 25 females against 7 males per thousand; A total of 24.6 million persons are engaged in animal farming, 18.6% million women against 6 million men constituting 75.6 percent; total man power requirement for full day employment worked out to 33.1 million, 26.6 million for livestock and 6.5 million for poultry sectors, etc. the Committee desired the Department to infuse more funds and innovative ideas to tap the employment potential of the livestock sector to the fullest so that not only this sector's contribution to economy is enhanced but also the nation continues to maintain its supremacy in this aspect in the world. They also desired that along with the livestock census a study to assess the employment potential of the livestock sector may also be undertaken and they be apprised of the same.

1.18 The Government in their Action Taken Note have stated that the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), a premier organization in the conduct of sample surveys, conducts quinquennial surveys on employment and unemployment situation and provides sector-wise information on employment generated, including in the Animal

Husbandry sector. NSSO has conducted the last survey on employment and unemployment situation in their 68th Round (2011-12). The results of the survey would be available by June 2013. The Technical Committee on 19th Livestock Census has therefore decided to wait and use the results of the 68th round of NSSO on Employment Generation through livestock sector and not to duplicate the work in 19th Livestock Census.

1.19 The Committee concur with the logic of the Department about waiting for the results of the 68th Round of NSSO Survey on Employment Generation through Livestock Sector before taking further the implementation of the Recommendation of the Committee in the 19th Livestock Census. As the results of the 68th Round of NSSO Survey were to become available in June, 2013, the Committee expect that the Department would expeditiously complete the work on 19th Livestock Census and share the outcome with them without any delay.

(Recommendation Para No. 2.51)

1.20 Noting that there was scope for integration of animal husbandry activities with MNREGA and the same was also being advised by the State Departments of Animal Husbandry Sector and finding that the beneficiaries belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are allowed to avail of MNREGA resources for land development and provision of irrigation facilities, etc. on land owned by them as also in some States man days are allowed for construction of animal sheds on their own land to MNREGA beneficiaries belonging to these categories the Committee, desired that steps should be taken by the Department in conjunction with the Ministry of Rural Development to attract more and more landless and poor farmers towards MNREGA so that more man days of employment could be generated which would help in success of both the programmes

having commonality of intended beneficiaries. They had also desired that they be apprised of the steps initiated in this direction.

1.21 In their Action Taken Note the Government have stated that the Department are in agreement with the observation of the august Committee regarding integration of animal husbandry activities with MNREGA. The guidelines of MNREGA provide for location-specific grassland development for ensuring adequate fodder supply. Plantation of fodder trees, shrubs, and other forage varieties for developing grazing land, common property resources and waste land can be undertaken by States under MNREGA funds. Such a step will enable landless animal rearers to have access to sources of fodder required for their livestock. States have accordingly been requested by the Department.

1.22 To strengthen the synergy between MNREGA and agriculture and allied rural livelihoods, to respond to the demands of the States for greater location specific flexibility in permissible works and to help improve the ecological balance in rural India and to provide a cleaner, healthier environment for the rural population, the Ministry of Rural Development have expanded the list of permissible works under MNREGA. The following activities related to livestock and fisheries have been included under the new guidelines of MNREGA.

- Poultry Shelter
- Goatery Shelter
- Construction of Pucca Floor, Urine Tank and Fodder Trough for Cattle
- Azolla as Cattle Feed Supplements
- Fisheries in seasonal water bodies on public land
- Fish Drying Yards

The Department have issued advisory to States for steps to be taken for ensuring availability of fodder and feed. The advisory includes convergence with MNREGA.

1.23 The Committee note with satisfaction the various measures taken by the Government in pursuance of their instant Recommendation. The States have been requested in terms of extant MNREGA Guidelines to undertake plantation of fodder trees, shrubs and other forage varieties for developing grazing land, common property resources and waste land. This, in view of the Committee, is a right step towards ensuring access of the landless and marginal farmers to affordable fodder for their livestock. Furthermore, activities like Poultry Shelter, Goatery Shelter, Construction of Pucca Floor, Urine Tank and Fodder Trough for Cattle, Azolla as Cattle Feed Supplements, Fisheries in seasonal water bodies on public land, Fish Drying Yards, etc. have also been included under the new Guidelines of MNREGA. This will go a long way in ameliorating the lot of the intended beneficiaries viz. the landless and marginal farmers who are involved in animal husbandry activities. The Committee desire to be apprised of the impact of these initiatives on the animal husbandry activities at the field level.

WOMEN CENTRIC SCHEMES

(Recommendation Para No.2.52)

1.24 Noting that women have all along been at the forefront of dairy cooperative movement and the majority of the work force in this sector i.e. 75.6% comprises women and taking further note that in schemes like Rural Backyard Poultry Development component of the centrally sponsored scheme of Poultry Development which covers beneficiaries from BPL population and the 'Integrated Development for Small Ruminants and Rabbits where the intended beneficiaries are landless and marginal farmers and preference is given to women the Committee, had recommended focussed attention be given to Women Centric Schemes, during the course of the Twelfth Plan so

as to ensure their financial self sufficiency to them and that pride of place is given to women in the schemes of the Department.

1.25 In their Action Taken Note the Government have stated that in the poultry sector, women mostly look after rural poultry enabling gender-empowerment. The backyard poultry farming is one of the important means to empower the landless BPL families with assets (20 to 50 birds) that would provide some income.

1.26 It is intended to focus attention during XII Plan for empowering women beneficiaries in particular through the 'Rural Backyard Poultry Development' component of Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Poultry Development". Similarly, under the Scheme Integrated Development of Small Ruminants and Rabbits (IDSRR) and Conservation of Threatened Breeds more women will be associated in implementation of such schemes.

1.27 In addition, the Department have decided that 10 to 15% of funds will be earmarked under the existing Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector Schemes from 2013-14 onwards for Empowerment of Women component.

1.28 The recommendations of the Committee are noted for suitably incorporating women centric schemes while modifying the Department's Schemes for Twelfth Five Year Plan.

1.29 The Committee note that the Government, in pursuance of their Recommendation are now associating more and more women in implementation of Schemes like 'Rural Backyard Poultry Development', the 'Integrated Development of Small Ruminants and Rabbits', 'Conservation of Threatened Breeds', etc. The Committee also note that from the ongoing Fiscal (2013-14) onwards the Department have decided that 10% to 15% of funds will be earmarked under the existing Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector Schemes for Empowerment of Women Component. Furthermore, women centric schemes will

be suitably incorporated while modifying their schemes for the Twelfth Five Year Plan. While appreciating all these initiatives of the Government, the Committee desire that details of actual achievements of these initiatives during the current year may be furnished to them for their information.

(Recommendation Para No. 2.53)

1.30 Noting that inspite of the key to the success of any Scheme hinging on easy access to institutional credit for the beneficiaries women being the bulwark of the majority of livestock rearing and other allied activities were mostly not in a position to avail of institutional credit due to procedural and other inhibiting factors, the Committee had recommended the Department to work in tandem with other agencies involved in the implementation of these Schemes to ensure that women willing to avail the benefits under these Scheme are able to obtain financial assistance from banks easily and do not encounter any hardships in obtaining bank loans. They had further recommended that all procedural hindrances, as obtained from the feedback, be sorted out to make them beneficiary friendly to ultimately enhance the effectiveness of the schemes being implemented by the Department and that preference be given to Women Self Help Groups (SHGs) in Animal Husbandry activities also as they have been very successful in executing Schemes of various Ministries of the Government of India.

1.31 In their Action Taken Note the Government have stated that the Department are advising to Implementing Agency (NABARD) that preference be given to women self help groups in animal husbandry activities in implementation of credit linked schemes. States are also being advised to cover women beneficiaries under animal husbandry schemes under RKVY and NMPS. The administrative approval for the scheme specifically mentions the target group of beneficiaries including women.

1.32 The Committee note the Government's reply that the Department are advising NABARD to give preference to women SHGs in animal husbandry activities while implementing credit linked schemes or the State Governments to cover women beneficiaries under animal husbandry schemes under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana and National Mission for Protein Supplements. The Committee hope that the Department would have, by now, issued these instructions. They would like to be furnished of copies of the same.

LIVESTOCK HEALTH AND DISEASE CONTROL

(Recommendation Para No. 2.54)

1.33 Taking note of the efforts of the Government towards disease control in livestock and appreciating the fact that the Food and Mouth Disease Control Programme has been expanded from 54 districts to 221 districts, the Committee had also expressed their concern over the estimated loss of Rs.20,000.00 crore per annum on account of reduced production of milk and meat due to Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) which was reducing our access to the international trade. Given the fact that the scheme has reduced the occurrence of the disease and the Government intended to expand its outreach in a phased manner so as to control FMD totally by the year 2025, the Committee had desired the Department to implement the Scheme more vigorously and take concrete steps to strive to eradicate totally FMD from the Country to ensure livestock health and thereby sustain and enhance the production of milk and milk products, meat, etc. and promote international trade.

1.34 The Government in their Action Taken Note have informed that as of now, whole of Southern peninsula (Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu) along with Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh(16 districts), Delhi and UT

of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu have been covered under Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme (FMD-CP). The implementation of the FMD – CP has shown desired results in terms of reduction in the number of outbreaks in these areas. The systematic vaccination of all the eligible target population is being undertaken in the Southern States as well as Puducherry to control the disease.

1.35 It is proposed to expand the scope of the FMD - CP in Twelfth Plan and beyond in a phased manner so as to cover the entire Country. In the meantime, FMD - CP will further be extended to cover all the districts of Rajasthan and as many districts in Uttar Pradesh as possible in the first year of the Twelfth Plan itself, keeping in mind geographical contiguity with already covered districts and availability of the FMD vaccine.

1.36 Apart from increasing coverage under FMD-CP, the Department has been vigorously pursuing in (a) testing/ensuring quality control of the vaccine produced; (b) increasing the availability of FMD vaccine from 150 million doses to around 280 million doses and in regularly taking up the issues with the vaccine suppliers to enhance the vaccine production output ultimately to around 800 million doses; (c) monitoring of the FMD-CP to ensure at least 80% of the eligible population is vaccinated in the States under FMD-CP; (d) encouraging the education to farmers to be more proactive in disease reporting and receptive in our control programme and (e) encouraging the States to exercise animal movement control and ensure certification of the vaccinated animals as to be allowed entry into a State.

1.37 The Committee though satisfied with the progress made by the Department under the Scheme Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme till now have the recurring colossal losses of Rs. 20000 crore per year caused by this dreaded

disease weighing over their mind. They, therefore, strongly feel that the sooner the disease is eradicated from the Country the better. In this context the present target of the Department to increase availability of the vaccine from the present 150 million doses to 280 million doses when the ultimate requirement is of the tune of 800 million doses does not go to assuage the concern of the Committee. In the opinion of the Committee, investments have to be made in FMD – CP on a far higher scale so that the reach and coverage of the Programme is expanded expeditiously and the damage caused to the livestock health and to the economy is controlled at the earliest. The Committee would appreciate a clear cut roadmap from the Department in this context.

INSURANCE OF LIVESTOCK

(Recommendation Para No.2.55)

1.38 Observing the poor health status of livestock in the Country and the frequent occurrence of natural calamities and noting that the Livestock Insurance Scheme covers 300 selected districts from 10 December, 2009 with the benefit of subsidy is restricted to two animals per beneficiary per household, the Committee had desired the Scheme be implemented in full swing to attract more and more poor and marginal farmers of the Country towards this Scheme in view of the poor livestock health and recurrence of natural calamities and reduce the losses of these farmers. They had further urged the Department to consider the feasibility of removing the extant restriction of two animal per beneficiary per household and to popularise the Scheme in rural and remote areas, extend incentives and encourage small and poor farmers to come forward to avail the benefit of the Scheme so that the objective of employment generation also could be enhanced.

1.39 In their Action Taken Note the Government have stated that the Department propose to implement the Livestock Insurance Scheme in all the Districts of the Country instead of 300 selected districts and to insure upto 5 animals per beneficiary per household instead of 2 animals per beneficiary per household so as to attract more and more poor and marginal farmers of the Country towards this Scheme in view of the poor livestock health and recurrence of natural calamities resulting in losses to the farmers. The existing premium subsidy will be reviewed to enable more small and poor farmers to avail the benefit of the scheme.

1.40 The Committee take note of the proposal of the Department to implement the Livestock Insurance Scheme in all the districts of the Country from the present 300 districts. They also take note of the proposal of the Department to cover 5 animals per beneficiary per household instead of the present 2 animals per beneficiary per household. They, however, consider these only as half measures as they are still at proposal stage. The Livestock Insurance Scheme has the potential of providing substantial safeguard to the small and marginal farmers from unforeseen situations and the frequently occurring natural calamities. The Committee, therefore, desire that both these proposals be immediately acted upon by the Department and the Committee be apprised of the same without any delay.

SCHEMES FOR FARMERS GROWING FODDER CROPS

(Recommendation Para No. 2.56)

1.41 In their Thirty-sixth Report, the Committee had noted that an area of 15.6 million hectare is classified as wasteland and is available for grazing. However, this is mostly degraded or has been encroached upon restricting availability for livestock grazing.

They had also noted that the gap between demand and availability of feed and fodder varies between 36% for greenfeed, 40% for dry fodder and 57% for fodder concentrate. The Committee had further noted that to address the above issues, the Department had launched a comprehensive modified 'Centrally Sponsored Fodder and Feed Development Scheme' from 01 April, 2010, which included components that would encourage farmers, State Government Departments (Animal Husbandry, Agriculture, Forest, other Public Sector undertakings), Goshalas, NGOs, Milk Federation, etc. to increase fodder production and also private entrepreneurs to take up feed production by establishing feed production units, mineral mixture plants, etc. Moreover, the Department had increased free of cost distribution fodder minikits among the farmers to 11.79 lakh to encourage more fodder production. They had however, regretted to find that all these measures had not resulted in any remarkable increase in the production of feed and fodder due to the absence of dedicated forward linkages for farmers producing fodder crops i.e. arrangements for buy back of fodder seeds produced by the farmers. Resultantly, the State Governments would assess the requirement of fodder seeds and make an agreement for 3-5 years with a seed supplying agency for rates of seed (Crop-wise) to be supplied, including transportation cost up to delivery place, for each year. Time frame for supply of seeds was also decided with seed supplying agency. The seed supplying agencies in turn makes a buy-back arrangement of fodder seeds produced by the farmers and there was no mechanism to regulate prices which are market linked. The Committee had, therefore, desired the Department to become proactive for the proper implementation of this Scheme. They had also desired the Department to take up the issue of removal of encroachments and upgradation of the classified wastelands which could be put to fodder crop production, reduce the wide gap in demand and supply as the Department had admitted the importance of feed and fodder in sustaining

productivity of the livestock sector. They had further desired the Department to assess the requirement of fodder seeds in the Country to generate more employment opportunities for the landless and poor farmers.

1.42 In their Action Taken Note the Government have stated that fodder and feed is obtained from a variety of sources including cultivation of fodder varieties, crop residues, dual-purpose crops, trees, forest areas, grasslands, etc. Most of these sources are not exclusive contributors to feed and fodder owing to different competing uses. Therefore, it has not been possible to capture reliable data on availability of feed and fodder. However, the efforts of the Department have definitely resulted into improvement in the availability of feed and fodder in the Country. Although the report of the Working Group on Animal Husbandry for the 12th Five Year Plan has mentioned about increase in availability of various types of feed and fodder over the last two decades, but there is a need to further increase the availability of feed and fodder so as to reduce the gap between demand and availability, which is necessary to sustain productivity of the livestock sector.

1.43 This Department has requested Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for assessment of consumption of Feed and Fodder under the NSSO. They have intimated that this will be considered by the Working Group on NSS 70th Round (Jan. 2013 – June 2013).

1.44 The component of 'Seed Procurement and Distribution' under the Centrally Sponsored Fodder and Feed Development Scheme provides for a buy-back arrangement by the seed supplying agencies with the farmers. The guidelines under this component also provide for distribution of seeds so procured by the Seed Supplying Agencies to the farmers free of cost. States have been advised to expand

implementation of this component of the Scheme to increase production and availability of fodder seeds. Steps are being taken to strengthen implementation of this Scheme.

1.45 The issue of use of cultivable wasteland for fodder crop production is being taken up by the Department with the State Governments by way of providing 100% assistance under the component of 'Grasslands Development including Grass Reserves' under the 'Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Fodder and Feed Development'. The advisory issued by this Department to the State Governments regarding various steps to be taken for increasing availability of fodder and feed includes advice on optimum utilization of land resources, improvement of grasslands/wastelands and other community lands.

1.46 The Committee while taking note of the various steps enumerated in the Action Taken Reply of the Government are of the considered view that far more concerted efforts are required on the part of the Department as the follow-up action on reclaiming wastelands as also the lands encroached upon would mostly be taken by the State Governments and their agencies. The huge gap between the demand and supply of feed and fodder, inspite of the fact that vast tracts of land measuring 15.6 million hectare are wasteland and available for grazing, defies logic. The Committee also find it inexplicable as to how the Department as also the Working Group of Animal Husbandry for Twelfth Plan have concluded about improved feed and fodder availability during the last two decades when the Department has itself confessed its inability to capture feed and fodder availability data due to various constraints. Now that NSSO has completed its 70th Survey which also *inter-alia* assessed feed and fodder consumption, the Committee desire the Department to rework its analysis in the matter and come-up with more proactive measures to tackle the acute shortage of

feed and fodder promptly. The Committee would appreciate a feedback in this context at the earliest.

CHAPTER II

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

ROLE OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY IN THE ECONOMY

(Recommendation Para No.1.14)

The Committee's examination of the subject reveals that at 529.7 million the nation is endowed with the second largest livestock population spread over 100 million households in about 6 lakh villages as per the provisional Report of Livestock Census 2007. In percentage terms it comes to 56.8% and 14.5% of world's buffalo and cattle population. They further note that the growth rate of cattle and buffalo is 7.5% while in respect of pigs and other animals is in the negative balance at -17.65% and -23% over the figures of 2003. Given the fact that livestock production and agriculture in the Country are intrinsically linked and dependent on each other it goes without saying that both play a very crucial role in contributing to the overall food security, the Country is aspiring for. Coupled with their interdependency it is also a known fact that contribution of livestock sector to agriculture GDP is as high as 70% in arid areas and 40% in semi-arid areas as well as the sector's total export earnings in the year 2009-10 amounted to Rs 10,844.76 crore despite the fact that only a very small fraction of the entire livestock sector is functioning on a commercial scale. The above narrative further reveals that the rapid urbanization and rise in per capita income levels is fuelling the demand for products derived from this sector. This is also an indicator of the vast employment and income generation potential of this sector. The role played and the income and

employment generation potential of this sector vis-a-vis the allocations and the level of investment are dealt in the succeeding paragraphs.

Reply of the Government:

The observations of Parliamentary Standing Committee are noted.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

DISTRIBUTION OF LIVESTOCK AMONGST LANDLESS SEGMENT

(Recommendation Para 2.44)

The Committee observe that inspite of the existence of a plethora of Schemes being implemented by the Department for distribution of livestock amongst the landless, the ground realities as reflected in the documents furnished to them are not at all encouraging. What is further disconcerting is the fact that livestock holding percentage amongst this most vulnerable class of the agricultural community runs into single digits. The Committee cannot, but deprecate the extant sordid state of affairs as they are of the firm opinion that the Scheme of DVCF / DE DS has not borne the desired results in favour of the targeted sections of landless and marginal farmers. The reasons attributed therefore by the Department are not at all convincing. Though they acknowledge that there might be genuine constraints holding back the success of this Scheme, but they at the same time are also confident that these are not insurmountable constraints. They, therefore, recommend the Department to sort out with the implementing agencies viz. State Governments and others and address this vexed issue in a holistic manner while keeping in focus the main objective of this Scheme. They further recommend that with a view to provide assured access to feed to the landless segments to enable them to raise livestock, the Department need to initiate

urgent measures to resurrect the dwindling Common Property resources under Panchayat lands if need be with proper coordination with Ministry of Panchayati Raj to enable them to support livestock. They are pretty sure that if these measures are taken in a coordinated way, then this Scheme could be successfully implemented.

Reply of the Government:

The Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund scheme was launched during the year 2004-05 to attract investment by private sector in the Dairy sector. This scheme is open for private entrepreneurs, NGOs, farmers, group of all sector of unorganized as well as organized sector. The objective of the scheme is to generate self employment and provide infrastructure, mainly to un-organized dairy sector for improving quality of milk resulting in food safety and to help in bringing a significant portion of this unorganized sector in the ambit of organized sector, which will increase the commercial viability of these activities. The DVCF scheme was modified and renamed as Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS) from 1st September, 2010. The Scheme has become very popular since then which is reflected by the fact that out of Rs.150 crore allocated for the year 2012-13, an amount of Rs.140 crore has already been released to NABARD by 30.6.2012. NABARD has further indicated that they have pending applications for which more amount is required to be released as subsidy to the beneficiaries. During the year 2011-12 as against BE allocation of Rs.88 crore, Rs.110 crore was released to NABARD. Since inception of DEDS (1.09.2010), an amount of Rs. 270.40 crore has been released to NABARD, against which NABARD has sanctioned 46,829 Dairy Units and released back ended capital subsidy of Rs.186.14 crore till 30.06.2012.

Landless and marginal farmers are eligible to participate under the scheme and are beneficiaries of the scheme though no separate data is collected and maintained by NABARD in this regard. Availability of feed and fodder is a major constraint for landless livestock holder. Department has advised States to take steps for increasing availability of feed and fodder and for improving common property resources and grazing lands by utilizing funds under ongoing schemes of Government. States have also been advised to promote cultivation of Azolla, which is a rich source of protein for animals and as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Rural Development, MNREGS funds can be utilized for Azolla cultivation.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

(Recommendation Para 2.45)

The Committee observe that though the landless segment constitutes 32% of rural population, the distribution of livestock of Sheep and Goat and poultry is to the extent of 6.5%. With a view to increase their distribution, they desire the Department to lay extra stress on providing sheep, goat and poultry to the landless segment as these require very minimal investment in terms of infrastructure with rearing cost being pretty low. Further, in their opinion these animals would provide the much needed dietary supplement to the targeted class in terms of milk and eggs in the initial stage and later on enable them to venture into such activities that could augment their income levels besides providing gainful employment to these sections during the lean cropping season. They would like to be apprised of the steps taken in this regard.

Reply of the Government:

The scheme 'Rural Backyard Poultry Development' component of Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Poultry Development" aims at supporting Below Poverty Line beneficiary families, wherein 4-week old chicks, suitable for rearing in the backyard, reared at the 'mother units' are further distributed to them in batches. Further, to raise the birds in a bio-secure manner, a provision of Rs. 750/- per beneficiary for night-shelter etc. is made in the scheme.

The backward linkage for supply of the low-input technology birds suitable for family for backyard poultry (particularly by landless and marginal farmers) is also ensured through support to State Government farm infrastructure under the 'Assistance to State Poultry Farm' component of Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Poultry Development". It is envisaged in XII Plan to modernize the infrastructure through proper automation and bio-security measures for improving productivity and production of poultry and its products. Since the inception of the erstwhile scheme, 'Assistance to State Poultry Farms' (now subsumed under Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Poultry Development" as a component), a total of 233 State Poultry Farms have been assisted across the Country.

As far as Goatery is concerned, the scheme "Integrated Development on Small Ruminants and Rabbits (IDSRR)" supports establishment of small rearing unit and breeding farms of sheep and goat through NABARD. Target groups for this beneficiary oriented programme include women, poor and marginal farmers. Under National Mission on Protein Supplements, the goat rearing scheme has been supported by Department through RKVY to provide the much needed protein supplements for targeted group includes women, poor and marginal farmers.

As a follow up to the recommendation of the Committee, the State Governments are being advised to give to preference to landless farmer beneficiaries for distribution of goatery, sheep, piggery and backyard poultry units under NMPS and RKVY by forming Self Help Groups of such beneficiaries as clusters and by providing suitable linkage to veterinary services required for such projects.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

CATTLE AND BUFFALO POPULATION

(Recommendation Para 2.46)

The examination of the subject by them revealed lack of clarity in the data generated on the growth of cattle and buffalo population by the Department is at variance with that of the assertion of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries that the cattle and buffalo population is not showing any signs of increase causes them deep anguish. Since they are given to understand that the Ministry of Food Processing Industries have taken up the matter with the Department, they desire the Department to urgently remove the ambiguity in perception on this aspect and apprise the Committee of the factual position within three months of the presentation of this Report.

Reply of the Government:

The number of cattle and buffalo population as per the Livestock Census from 1951 onwards is given below:

**Number of cattle & Buffaloes as per Livestock Censuses
(In Millions)**

Year	Species	
	Cattle	Buffalo
1951	155.30	43.40
1956	158.70	44.90
1961	175.60	51.20
1966	176.20	53.00
1972	178.30	57.40
1977	180.00	62.00
1982	192.54	69.78
1987	199.69	75.97
1992	204.58	84.21
1997	198.88	89.92
2003	185.18	97.92
2007	199.08	105.34

The above table shows that the buffalo population is in increasing trends. However, the cattle population decreased from 204.58 million in 1992 to 198.88 million in 1997 and further decreased to 185.18 million in 2003.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has informed that they do not have independent source of data on cattle population and have been using the data generated by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries through the Livestock Census. Between 1997 and 2003, the Census showed a drop in total livestock population. However, it is observed that as per the Livestock Census, 2007, the total livestock population has increased from 485 million to 529.7 million during the period from 2003 to 2007 indicating the growth of 9.2%.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

LIVESTOCK CENSUS

(Recommendation Para 2.48)

The Committee observe that the last livestock census was undertaken more than five years ago and that the Department is relying on information generated by the 59th round of NSSO when already NSSO has carried out further surveys. They desire the Department to conduct a fresh livestock survey in real quick time independently through the Animal Husbandry Department of States so as to get an authentic as well as up-to-date data on the livestock population in the Country. They further desire that the parameters of this census be broadened to include the livestock owners as well which in their view would enable the Department to revisit / reorient their schemes to benefit the target groups at the earliest.

Reply of the Government:

The Department is in the process of conducting the next Livestock Census (19th Livestock Census) through Animal Husbandry Departments of the States in the year 2012 for getting up-to-date data of livestock population in the Country. The Census will provide information on number of households having various species of livestock and poultry.

The information on distribution of land and livestock holding in the Country is collected through the survey on land and livestock holding which was conducted by NSSO during its 59th Round (January to June, 2003). The NSSO will again conduct this survey in its 70th round (January to June, 2013).

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

(Recommendation Para 2.49)

The Committee note that the Department is implementing many Schemes viz. NPCBB, CCBFs, CHRS and CFSP&TI to name a few, for genetic upgradation of bovine population to enhance their productivity and availability of quality animals in the Country. Though the Department have formulated many Schemes to upgrade the quality of bovines, still a lot more needs to be done as the growth rate of cattle and buffalo does not give a true picture of the efficacy of their programmes. They, therefore, desire that special emphasis be placed first on preserving indigenous breeds and then through genetic engineering upgrade their quality and quantity as well. The Department also needs to popularize these Schemes to enhance their reach thereby increase quality livestock throughout the Country.

Reply of the Government:

The NPCBB emphasizes on (a) Genetic upgradation of non-descriptive cattle population and (b) Development and Conservation of indigenous bovine breeds. In addition, efforts are on to promote high producing indigenous breeds of cattle & buffalo in their respective breeding tracts. For that, some State Agriculture Universities and NGOs have also been associated in implementation of NPCBB. Funds have been released to Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Science (GADVASU), Ludhiana and to BAIF for establishment of Embryo Transfer Technology Lab. Incentives are made available to the farmers maintaining elite animals of indigenous breeds under bull production programme being implemented under the scheme.

In order to attain higher productivity of milk through rapid genetic improvement and better feed management, the Government has launched the National Dairy Plan Phase I (NDP) with World Bank assistance with an outlay of Rs. 2242 crores. NDP envisages genetic upgradation of bovine population through production of high genetic merit disease free bulls. Development and conservation of 11 important indigenous dairy breeds i.e. Rathi, Tharparkar, Kankrej, Gir, Hariana, Sahiwal, Murrah, Mehsana, Jaffarabadi, Pandharpuri and Nili-Ravi will also be covered under the project.

The Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) is working on development of various genetic engineering protocols to upgrade genetic potential of dairying animals. The same will be implemented in the Department effectively to promote high production of animals as and when available.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

(Recommendation Para 2.51)

During the course of examination of the subject, the Committee observe that there is a scope of integration of animal husbandry activities with MNREGA and the same was also being advised by the State Department of Animal Husbandry Sector. They further observe that the beneficiaries belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are allowed to avail of MNREGA resources for land development and provision of irrigation facilities etc. on land owned by them. In their considered opinion these activities have a bearing on successful rearing of livestock by them. In some States man days are allowed for construction of animal sheds on their own land to MNREGA beneficiaries belonging to these categories. They, therefore, desire that steps should be taken by the Department in conjunction with the Ministry of Rural

Development to attract more and more landless and poor farmers towards MNREGA so that more man days of employment could be generated which would help in success of both the programmes having commonality of intended beneficiaries. They desire to be apprised of the steps initiated in this direction.

Reply of the Government:

The Department is in agreement with the observation of the august Committee regarding integration of animal husbandry activities with MNREGA. The guidelines of MNREGA provide for location-specific grassland development for ensuring adequate fodder supply. Plantation of fodder trees, shrubs, and other forage varieties for developing grazing land, common property resources and waste land can be undertaken by States under MNREGA funds. Such a step will enable landless animal rearers to have access to sources of fodder required for their livestock. States have accordingly been requested by the Department.

To strengthen the synergy between MNREGA and agriculture and allied rural livelihoods, to respond to the demands of the States for greater location specific flexibility in permissible works and to help improve the ecological balance in rural India and to provide a cleaner, healthier environment for the rural population, the Ministry of Rural Development has expanded the list of permissible works under MNREGA. The following activities related to livestock and fisheries have been included under the new guidelines of MNREGA.

- Poultry Shelter
- Goatery Shelter
- Construction of Pucca Floor, Urine Tank and Fodder Trough for Cattle
- Azolla as Cattle Feed Supplements

- Fisheries in seasonal water bodies on public land
- Fish Drying Yards

The Department has issued advisory to States for steps to be taken for ensuring availability of fodder and feed. The advisory includes convergence with MNREGA.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.23 of Chapter I of this Report.

WOMEN CENTRIC SCHEMES

(Recommendation Para 2.52)

The Committee note that women have all along been at the forefront of dairy cooperative movement. Certain activities like feeding and milking animals are mostly performed by women and the majority of the work force in this sector i.e. 75.6% comprises women. The Committee are happy to note further that the scheme Rural Backyard Poultry Development component of the centrally sponsored scheme of Poultry Development envisages to cover beneficiaries from below poverty line including women to enable them to gain supplementary income and nutritional support. Besides income generation, the Scheme provides nutritional supplementation in form of valuable animal protein thereby empowering women in rural areas. Under the scheme 'Integrated Development for Small Ruminants and Rabbits (IDSRR)' there is provision for establishment of commercial sheep and goat rearing units which are supported with a mix of loan-cum-subsidy. The intended beneficiaries are landless and marginal farmers and preference is given to women. The Committee, therefore, desire focussed attention

be given to Women Centric Schemes, during the course of the Twelfth Plan so as to ensure financial self sufficiency to them and that pride of place is given to women in the schemes of the Department.

Reply of the Government:

In the poultry sector, women mostly look after rural poultry enabling gender-empowerment. The backyard poultry farming is one of the important means to empower the landless BPL families with assets (20 to 50 birds) that would provide some income.

It is intended to focus attention during XII Plan for empowering women beneficiaries in particular through the 'Rural Backyard Poultry Development' component of Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Poultry Development". Similarly, under the scheme Integrated Development on Small Ruminants and Rabbits (IDSRR) and Conservation of Threatened Breeds more women will be associated in implementation of such schemes.

In addition, the Department has decided that 10 to 15% of funds will be earmarked under the existing centrally Sponsored/Central Sector schemes from 2013-14 onwards for Empowerment of Women component.

The recommendations of the committee are noted for suitably incorporating women centric schemes while modifying the Department's schemes for Twelfth Five Year Plan.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.29 of Chapter I of this Report.

(Recommendation Para 2.53)

The Committee recognizes that the key to the success or failure of any Scheme lies in the easy access to institutional credit for the beneficiaries. They, however, observe that women being the bulwark of the majority of livestock rearing and other allied activities are mostly not in a position to avail of institutional credit due to procedural and other inhibiting factors. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to work in tandem with other agencies involved in the implementation of these Schemes to ensure that women willing to avail the benefits under these Scheme are able to obtain financial assistance from banks easily and do not have to encounter any hardships in obtaining bank loans. They further recommend that all procedural hindrances as obtained from the feedback are sorted out to make them beneficiary friendly to ultimately enhance the effectiveness of the schemes being implemented by the Department. They further desire that preference be given to Women Self Help Groups (SHGs) in Animal Husbandry activities also as they have been very successful in executing Schemes of various Ministries of the Government of India. They desire to be informed of the steps taken in this regard.

Reply of the Government:

The Department is advising to Implementing Agency (NABARD) to give preference be given to women self help groups in animal husbandry activities in implementation of credit linked schemes. States are also being advised to cover women beneficiaries under animal husbandry schemes under RKVY and NMPS. The administrative approval for the scheme specifically mentions the target group of beneficiaries including women.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.32 of Chapter I of this Report.

LIVESTOCK HEALTH AND DISEASE CONTROL

(Recommendation Para 2.54)

The Committee observe that schemes to control diseases in livestock and ensure their well being are of vital importance in maintaining the level of employment and income generation capacity of the Animal Husbandry Sector to the national GDP. They also observe that the Department is implementing schemes such as ASCAD, NPRE, FMD-CP to name a few towards the above stated objective. They, however, are constrained to observe that an estimated loss of Rs.20,000.00 crore per annum on account of reduced production of milk and meat due to Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) is reducing our access to the international trade. The Committee are happy to note that the Department have now expanded the FMD scheme to a total of 221 districts from 54 districts earlier as the implementation of the scheme has reduced the occurrence of the disease and expand its outreach in a phased manner so as to control FMD totally by the year 2025. They, therefore, desire the Department to implement the scheme more vigorously and take concrete steps to strive to eradicate totally the FMD from the Country to ensure livestock health thereby sustain and enhance the production of milk and milk products, meat etc and promote international trade.

Reply of the Government:

As of now, whole of Southern peninsula (Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu) along with Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh(16 districts), Delhi and UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu have been covered under Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme (FMD-CP). The implementation of the FMD control programme has shown desired results in terms of reduction in the number of outbreaks in these areas. The systematic vaccination of all the eligible target population is being undertaken in the Southern States as well as Puducherry to control the disease.

It is proposed to expand the scope of the FMD Programme in 12th Plan and beyond in phased manner so as to cover the entire Country. In the meantime, FMD control programme will further be extended to cover all the districts of Rajasthan and as many districts in Uttar Pradesh as possible in the first year of the 12th Plan itself, keeping in mind geographical contiguity with already covered districts and availability of the FMD vaccine.

Apart from increasing coverage under FMD-CP, the Department has been vigorously pursuing in (a) testing/ensuring quality control of the vaccine produced; (b) increasing the availability of FMD vaccine from 150 million doses to around 280 million doses and in regularly taking up the issues with the vaccine suppliers to enhance the vaccine production output ultimately to around 800 million doses; (c) monitoring of the FMD-CP to ensure at least 80% of the eligible population is vaccinated in the States under FMD-CP; (d) encouraging the education to farmers to be more proactive in disease reporting and receptive in our control programme and (e) encouraging the States to exercise animal movement control and ensure certification of the vaccinated animals as to be allowed entry into a State.

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.37 of Chapter I of this Report.

MILK PRODUCTION IN INDIA

(Recommendation Paragraph 3.29)

The Committee are constrained to note that the growth rate of milk production in the Country which in the year 2004-05 and 2005-06 was 5% decreased to 3.7% in 2009-10 though the incremental growth in production was around 4 million MT in 2009-10 over the figure of 2008-09. They further note that many reasons contributed to lower production of milk due to less rainfall in northern States, reduced production of major agricultural crops like cereals and pulses, reduced availability of feed ingredients and above all the low availability of feed and fodder. They also note that though the Country may be heading the global list of milk producing Countries they are of the strong opinion that we should not rest on the laurels but continue to strive to not only maintain the position so attained but also take proactive steps to mitigate the problems inhibiting the production in the required quantities to meet the demand of our burgeoning population in the years to come. The Committee, therefore, desire the Department give more thrust to the schemes like Intensive Dairy Development Scheme, Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production, Centrally Sponsored Feed & Fodder Development and the National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding so that the problems being faced in low milk production in the Country are solved and at the earliest. These measures would definitely increase the production of milk as well as

enable us to attain the world average per capita availability of 265 grams per day and help in direct and indirect employment generation in the Country.

Reply of the Government:

Milk production in 2010-11 was 121.85 million tonnes [MT]. Anticipated production in 2011-12 is around 127.29 MT.

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Milk Production (in million Tonnes)	102.58	107.93	112.18	116.43	121.85	127.29*
Incremental production	-	5.35	4.25	4.25	5.42	5.44*
Growth over previous year (%)		5.21	3.93	3.79	4.65	4.65*
* anticipated						

It may be seen from the above table that the incremental production as well as the growth in production in percentage terms has started to look up since last year with achievement of 5.4 MT and 4.65% respectively. With the implementation of National Dairy Plan Phase-I from the year 2012 it is expected that the growth in milk production would see a further increase in the coming years. On the basis of problem and constraints faced in the implementation of the schemes/programmes in the 11th Five Year Plan, the above schemes/programmes will be strengthened in the 12th Five Year Plan. The average per capita availability has also increased to 281 grams per day in 2010-11 compared to of 265 grams per day in 2009-10 and is closer to the World average of 284 grams per day.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

DAIRY DEVELOPMENT

(Recommendation Para 3.30)

3.30 The Committee is perturbed to note that since inception in 2005-06 only 18,184 beneficiaries have been provided assistance under the Dairy Venture Capital Fund Scheme of the Department now renamed as Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS). The Committee further note that the guidelines for the Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme have been issued by NABARD to Banks on 21 September, 2010. To make the scheme popular and increase the coverage area the Department has appointed an independent agency Centre for Management Development for evaluation of the scheme Dairy Venture Capital Fund. Based on the evaluation report, the Department have (i) changed the mode of central assistance under the scheme from interest free loan (IFL) of 50% to Back-ended Capital Subsidy of 25 % (33.33% in case of SC/ST beneficiaries); (ii) for the 'Establishment of small dairy farms' component of DVCF, the Operation Flood areas were excluded. This restriction has been removed in DEDS; (iii) new components have been added to the scheme like assistance for (a) rearing of heifer calves (b) establishing vermicompost unit with milch animal unit and (c) establishing dairy marketing outlet /dairy parlor; and (iv) the financial limits for individual components under the scheme have also been raised. The Committee feel these steps when implemented effectively would not only spread the coverage of DEDS but also contribute to generation of more employment opportunities under the Scheme as well as in the ancillary sector as well and help in uplifting the well being of small and marginal dairy farmer who are the backbone of the dairy sector. They would like to be apprised of the outcome of the changes so initiated both in physical and financial terms.

Reply of the Government:

The performance of Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS) of the Department which provides indirect employment generation in the Country through setting up of dairy units has been very good over the last two years and the current year since the Scheme was modified with effect from 1.9.2010 as may be seen from the following table:

Performance of DVCF/DEDS Scheme

(Rs. in crore)

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
(Financial)	DVCF	DVCF/DEDS	DEDS	DEDS
BE allocation	38.00	32.40	88.00	150.00
RE Allocation	20.00	32.40	110.00	-
Expenditure	20.00	32.40	110.00	140.00
No. of beneficiaries (physical)	4719	4794	27,319	

* Funds released to NABARD as on 25.6.2012

Since inception in 2005-06 only 18,184 beneficiaries were provided assistance under the Dairy Venture Capital Fund Scheme of the Department now renamed as Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS) till 31.3.2011. However during 2011-12 alone assistance has been provided to 27,319 beneficiaries. Looking at the performance of the scheme the Department express higher coverage under the scheme in future.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

WOMEN DAIRY COOPERATIVE LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME (WDCLP)

(Recommendation Para 3.31)

3.31 The Committee note that with a view to encourage involvement of women in dairy cooperatives, NDDB continued to provide need based support under the project WDCLP which was under implementation between 1997-98 to 2002-03 wherein part of the unspent funds of EEC (EEC / EU) component of Operation Flood programme were being utilized. Till 2002-03 Rs. 437.33 lakh were spent in 14 States. The programme is no longer under implementation. However, the Department is contemplating various modifications in the guidelines with a view to promote greater participation of women in dairy sector during the course of Twelfth Plan. The Committee while recognizing the pivotal role played by women in the dairy sector as admitted by the Secretary during his deposition before them on the subject desire the Department to devise modifications based on the experience gained in the WDCLP project and take concrete steps in the Twelfth Plan to encourage participation of women in dairy and the entire spectrum of activities in animal husbandry sector so as to optimally utilize the employment potential available in the activities of the animal husbandry sector. They would like to be informed of the steps taken in this direction.

Reply of the Government:

The Department is working on incentives that could be provided exclusively to women under the schemes of the Department to encourage and promote greater participation of women in dairy sector during the course of Twelfth Plan. These incentives/modifications would be incorporated in the scheme while seeking approval of the Government for continuation during Twelfth Plan.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

ADVISORY INSTITUTE FOR LIVESTOCK SECTOR

(Recommendation Para 3.33)

3.33 The Committee's examination of this subject revealed that as per their own admission, one of the major weaknesses afflicting the livestock sector is the absence of an autonomous institute or think tank on the lines of BICP or CACP to provide information on production systems, policy, trade and cost of production of major livestock products and for coordination of various surveys and studies and to provide advise for attaining further growth in the sector. There is a lack of authentic data and data gaps which would have encouraged entrepreneurship and investment in the livestock sector. Such an institution will not only create market intelligence, national livestock production and development programmes but also generate ideas, plan of action and advise on appropriate inputs on the pattern of CACP. They further observe that the comments received from the States on the revision of methodology of estimation of major livestock products and the revised inquiry schedules of ISS circulated earlier are under examination in the Department. The methodology and schedule for data collection are proposed to be revised suitably during the Twelfth Plan based on the recommendations of the Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Animal Husbandry Commissioner of the Department. They, therefore, desire the Department to examine the feasibility of setting up an advisory body urgently so that such an organisation is in place to aid / advise the Department on all policies pertaining to livestock sector. They further desire the Department also to finalise / revise the

methodology and schedule for data collection under ISS within the next six months which would bridge the data gaps and generate authentic data on various aspects concerning livestock sector.

Reply of the Government:

Technical Committee of Direction for Improvement of Animal Husbandry Statistics guides the Department in the conduct of the Integrated Sample Survey (ISS) for Estimation of Production of Major Livestock Products. Director General, Central Statistical Office is the chairman of this Committee, which meets at least once in every year to review the progress of the implementation of the ISS besides approving the annual estimates of production of milk, eggs, wool and meat. The recommendations of the Committee are implemented by all Animal Husbandry Departments of States. The report of the Committee under the Chairmanship of Animal Husbandry Commissioner of the Department on 'Revision of Methodology/Schedules for Integrated Sample Survey' was finalized in August 2011. The State Animal Husbandry Departments have been requested to use the revised methodology and schedules for data collection from the Summer Season of 2012-13 i.e. from March, 2012.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

POULTRY

(Recommendation Para 3.34)

The Committee observe that poultry development - a house hold activity in India- production on scientific lines started about four decades ago through the concerted

efforts of Governments policies and institutions. Under the scheme 'Assistance to State Poultry Farms' initiated in 1999-2000, so far a total of 218 State poultry Farms have been assisted. To enable BPL beneficiaries gain supplementary income and nutritional support, the Rural Backyard Poultry Development was started in August, 2009. During 2009-10 and 2010-11 (upto 31 October, 2010) assistance has been provided to 24,476 and 1,39,800 BPL families respectively. These figures suggest that the RBPD scheme is doing well. The Committee, therefore, desire that this particular scheme should be implemented more vigorously to cover more number of BPL beneficiaries in the Twelfth Plan which in their opinion would help in not only supplementing the income and nutritional support of BPL families but also generate more employment opportunities in particular for women both directly and indirectly in the sector.

Reply of the Government:

Under 'Rural Backyard Poultry Development' component of Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Poultry Development" which was launched in the middle of 2009-10, during the two and a half years i.e. upto 2011-12, assistance has been provided to the tune of over Rs. 67 crore covering 3 lakh beneficiaries in 21 States so far. This Department intends to continue with the scheme component of 'Rural Backyard Poultry Development'.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

(Recommendation Para 3.35)

The Committee note that as per APEDA the poultry exports increased from Rs. 11 crore in 1993-94 to Rs. 422 crore in 2008-09. What, however, surprises them is that no future targets / projections of poultry exports has been made by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). The absence of proper projections shows APEDA in very poor light. In their opinion expectation of 10% increase in the poultry exports for a developing Country like ours would not just suffice. In the light of the admission of the Department that the commercial and industrial poultry sub-sector needs conducive environment, policy support and intervention in areas of Standardisation and quality control, compliance with WTO and Codex norms and a host of other such issues, they cannot but conclude that a lot more needs to be done to make investments and returns from the poultry sector more enviable thereby help in generating more direct employment opportunities for poultry farmers. They, therefore, desire the Department to take all measures needed to pep up the performance of the poultry sector in time bound manner in the areas as outlined by them. They desire to be apprised of the steps taken in this direction.

Reply of the Government:

The recommendation of the Standing Committee is noted for taking necessary follow up action in consultation with APEDA for increasing poultry exports from India.

It may be pertinent to mention that this Department is also implementing a Central Sector Scheme, 'Poultry Venture Capital Fund' from 2011-12 on back-ended Capital Subsidy mode. Farmers, individual entrepreneurs, NGOs, companies, cooperatives, groups of unorganized and organized sector which include Self Help Groups (SHGs), Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) etc are eligible to avail this Scheme. This

provides a basket of poultry activities to the entrepreneurs to choose from and this scheme aims to generate self employment and provide infrastructure for making improvement in quality.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

CHAPTER III

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY

QUALITY CONTROL IN DAIRY SECTOR

(Recommendation Para 3.32)

The Committee observe that under the Dairy Development project so far 19.16 lakh farmers in 28,569 villages have benefited by procuring more than 21.73 lakh litres of milk and marketing of 17.81 lakh litres of milk per day. Also 6.26 lakh farmers have been trained, 1,974 bulk milk coolers with a total capacity of 39.24 lakh litres have been installed and 1,344 testing laboratories have been strengthened. They further observe that as of now there is inadequacy of number of BSL-III level labs to handle the testing requirement in the Country. The projects to establish six BSL III Laboratories with the help of World Bank to be functional in a phased manner are being implemented under the Scheme of SIQ & CMP. Keeping in view the level of infrastructure established till now to handle the quality control aspects of the quantity of milk produced and being procured for further processing / marketing, the Committee recommend the Department to take urgent steps to not only ensure timely completion of these projects of establishing of BSL-II and BSL-III level labs but also ensure that the small and marginal farmers and others involved are fully aware of the infrastructure available and is put to maximum use by way distribution of education materials, hold publicity and awareness camps etc. in this regard. They would like to be informed of the progress made in this direction.

Reply of the Government:

The establishment of 23 BSL-II, 6 BSL-III laboratories for effective diagnosis and control of animal diseases under livestock health programme under the project “Prevention, Control and Containment of Avian Influenza” are under different stages of Implementation. There is no proposal for establishing such laboratories under SIQ&CMP. However, strengthening of laboratories for testing of milk is funded as a component under SIQ&CMP at various levels starting from the Dairy Co-operative Societies (DCSs) in the villages to the Laboratory in the Dairy Processing Plants.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

ALLOCATION DURING ELEVENTH PLAN

(RECOMMENDATION PARA 1.15 And 1.16)

The Committee note that though the Animal Husbandry and Dairying sectors are immensely contributing to the national GDP which was in the range of 4.89% in 2009-10 and that there is a lot of untapped employment potential, they are constrained to note that the allocations to this sector as well as the level of investments pouring in have throughout the Eleventh Plan period remained far below the optimum levels required for pepping up its growth trajectory. They are concerned to note the huge difference between the Proposed Allocation and the Approved Outlay for the Department during the course of the Eleventh Five Year Plan amounting to Rs. 9,466.17 crore. They are further appalled to find that the Approved Outlay was a mere 34.67% of the Proposed amount. This matter has been a cause of concern and was amply commented upon by them in their Reports on Demands for Grants of the Department in successive years till now. Either the Department's projections have gone horribly wrong or the Planning Commission does not consider these to be accurate though both sides have all along justified their respective stand with the end result being the fact that the Department stands to be at the receiving end continuing to be starved of funds. They being further aware that nothing much would be achieved by pointing fingers, they urge the Department and the Planning Commission to work in unison so that the yawning gap between the projections and approved Outlays is reduced to a great extent in the

course of the Twelfth Plan period. They would await fructification of their instant recommendation in the years to come.

Notwithstanding, the fact that the Department have not been getting the due from the Planning Commission as observed above, the Department too have not acquitted themselves as well as is expected of it which is reflected in the actual expenditure being less than the allocated funds. During the years 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 the actual expenditure has always been less than the actual allocation. The arguments put forth by the Department do not cut much ice with them as these have been lingering on endlessly for years. They are of the firm opinion that unless the Department first puts its house in order, the gap between allocation and expenditure will not narrow down. This further gets compounded at Revised Estimates stage when the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) further reduces the Budget Estimates based on the slow paced expenditure during the first six months of the financial year. The Committee, therefore, impress upon the Department to pull themselves up and all the implementing agencies too need to furnish their utilization certificates and fresh proposal in time so that the cycle of disbursement of funds flows smoothly throughout the year, thereby benefitting the targeted beneficiaries as well as ensuring optimum utilization of funds. The Committee is positive that if these vital factors are taken care of, the Department would be successful in achieving its mandate.

Reply of the Government:

The year-wise allocation of Animal Husbandry and Dairy Sector has increased substantially as per the table given below. However the expenditure was less, though it has gone up in Financial Year 2010-11 and 2011-12. The Plan allocation of Animal

Husbandry Sector of this department for the year 2012-13 is 21.64% higher than the allocation for 2011-12.

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Approved outlay	RE	Expenditure	% of Exp. w.r.t. RE
11th Plan (2007-2012)	5023.00			
2007-08	529.42	466.71	484.98	104%
2008-09	619.00	593.61	548.87	92%
2009-10	720.50	577.60	534.04	92%
2010-11	935.91	874.39	762.41	87%
2011-12	1196.81	1010.39	945.36	94%
TOTAL	4001.64	3522.70	3275.66	
2012-13	1527.30			

In addition to the allocation for this sector in budget of the Department, the livestock sector is also getting the funding support under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) which is implemented by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) which results in the enhancement of the share of plan allocation for this sector. The details of Year wise / Sector wise summary of approved projects in the 11th Plan for Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development under RKVY for activities in Animal Husbandry and Dairying sector is given in the following table:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Animal Husbandry	Dairy Development	Total
2007-08	104.80	56.76	161.56
2008-09	666.31	203.45	869.76
2009-10	712.02	154.85	866.87
2010-11	734.71	333.36	1068.07
2011-12	847.31	281.58	1128.89
TOTAL	3065.15	1030.00	4095.15

Apart from the above, National Mission on Protein Supplements (NMPS) was launched in the year 2011-12 in 22 identified States as a component of Rashtriya Krishi

Vikas Yojana, with an outlay of Rs. 300 Crore. Of which, the outlay for Animal Husbandry was earmarked to the tune of Rs. 200 crore. The objective of this programme is to increase production of animal protein in order to meet rising demand for these products. In the current year 2012-13, an amount of Rs. 500 crore has been allocated under different components of NMPS of which, the outlay for animal husbandry has been earmarked to Rs. 300 crore.

Thus, under RKVY and NMPS, an amount of about Rs. 4,295.15 crore was allocated for Animal Husbandry and Dairying Sector during Eleventh Plan in addition to the approved outlay of Rs. 4,001.64 crore for this Department.

In the context of the observation of the Standing Committee that the expenditure has been less than allocation, the Department is constantly taking up the matter with States to expense utilization of funds and submission of utilization certificates. The Department is regularly monitoring the progress on implementation of Schemes and the utilization of funds by States through video conferencing and visits by the senior officers of this Department to States and review meetings from time to time. During 2011-12, the expenditure through releases made by the Department was about 94% of the RE compared to 87% of previous year.

In order to liquidate to unspent balances, the Department is constantly taking up the matter with the State Governments to take urgent action to reduce the unspent balance with the States. The recommendations of the Committee for the Department to take steps, to improve the pace of utilization of funds are noted and necessary steps will be taken to improve the utilization by strengthening the monitoring mechanism further. The constraints for improving utilization of funds will be removed while revising the schemes for the Twelfth Plan period.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.12 of Chapter I of this Report.

IMBALANCED GROWTH OF INDIGENOUS / CROSS BREED CATTLE

(Recommendation Para 2.47)

The Committee observe that as per the figures of the livestock census carried out in the year 2007 the population of exotic/crossbreed cattle has increased by 33.92% in comparison to the 2003 census, while the population of indigenous variety has increased by only 3.44% and the population of buffalo had witnessed a growth of 7.58%. They are rather perplexed to note that the growth in population of indigenous cattle is very low and is a matter of grave concern which needs to be resolved at the earliest. They are of the firm opinion that as the majority of Indian Agriculturists are small and marginal farmers category who due to their minuscule landholding are at the bottom rung of the economical ladder and thus cannot afford to raise and maintain the expensive exotic/crossbreed cattle. Thus, they are forced to be content with the indigenous breed though their output in terms of milk is less, whose maintenance cost is low as well. For the sake of this stratum of agriculturists, the Committee urges the Department to undertake a slew of measures which would result in a remarkable increase in the population of indigenous cattle as they are more in tune with the environment.

Reply of the Government:

In order to improve the genetic makeup of bovine population and availability of indigenous cattle, Government of India has launched a major programme "National

Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding” (NPCBB) from October 2000. NPCBB emphasizes genetic upgradation of non-descriptive cattle and development / conservation of indigenous breeds. In addition to this, Government of India is also implementing three Central Sector Schemes namely, Central Cattle Breeding Farms (CCBFs), Central Frozen Semen Production & Training Institute (CFSP&TI) and Central Herd Registration Scheme (CHRS) for development of bovine population. All the Schemes give special emphasis and support for enhancing productivity and quality of indigenous breeds of cattle and buffalo. Under these schemes, there is a component of training of farmers to support these activities. Generally breeding policies of the States aim to preserve and improve the quality indigenous breeds through artificial insemination using semen of the quality bulls of the same breed.

The scheme “Central Cattle Breeding Farms (CCBFs) promotes indigenous breeds like Red Sindhi & Tharparkar cattle breeds and Surti & Murrah buffalo breeds which have excellent productivity potential. These farms provide elite germplasm and training to the farmers for promotion of these breeds. Incentives are also made available to the farmers of finally registered animals under Central Herd Registration Scheme (CHRS).

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.16 of Chapter I of this Report.

INSURANCE OF LIVESTOCK

(Recommendation Para 2.55)

The Committee observe that the livestock health in the Country is very poor and natural calamities are also very common. The Committee are given to understand that the Livestock Insurance Scheme being implemented in all the States has twin objectives of providing protection mechanism to the farmers and cattle rearers against any eventual loss of their animals due to death and to demonstrate the benefit of the insurance of livestock to the people and popularize it. The scheme covers 300 selected districts from 10 December, 2009. Benefit of subsidy is restricted to two animals per beneficiary per household. The Committee, therefore, desire the Livestock Insurance Scheme be implemented in full swing to attract more and more poor and marginal farmers of the Country towards this Scheme in view of the poor livestock health and recurrence of natural calamities and reduce the losses of poor and marginal farmers. They further urge the Department to consider the feasibility of removing the extant restriction of two animal per beneficiary per household and to popularise the scheme in rural and remote areas, extend incentives and encourage small and poor farmers to come forward to avail the benefit of the scheme so that the objective of employment generation also could be enhanced. They desire to be informed of the action taken in this respect.

Reply of the Government:

The Department proposes to implement the Livestock Insurance Scheme in all the District of the Country instead of 300 selected districts and to insure upto 5 animals per beneficiary per household instead of 2 animals per beneficiary per household so as to attract more and more poor and marginal farmers of the Country towards this

Scheme in view of the poor livestock health and recurrence of natural calamities resulting in losses to the farmers. The existing premium subsidy will be reviewed to enable more small and poor farmers to avail the benefit of the scheme.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.40 of Chapter I of this Report.

SCHEMES FOR FARMERS GROWING FODDER CROPS

(Recommendation Para 2.56)

The Committee note that an area of 15.6 million hectare is classified as wasteland and is available for grazing. These, however, are mostly degraded or have been encroached upon restricting availability for livestock grazing. They also note that the gap between demand and availability of feed and fodder varies between 36% for greenfed, 40% for dry fodder and 57% for fodder concentrate. The Committee further note that to address the above issues the Department has launched a comprehensive modified 'Centrally Sponsored Fodder and Feed Development Scheme' from 01.04.2010, which includes components that would encourage farmers, State Government Departments (Animal Husbandry, Agriculture, Forest, other Public Sector undertakings), Goshalas, NGOs, Milk Federation etc. to increase fodder production and also private entrepreneurs to take up feed production by establishing feed production units, mineral mixture plants etc. The Department has increased free of cost distribution of 11.79 lakh fodder minikits among the farmers to encourage more fodder production.

They however, regret to note that all these measures have not resulted in any remarkable increase in the production of feed and fodder. The root cause of this problem is the absence of dedicated forward linkages for farmers producing fodder crops i.e. arrangements to buy back of fodder seeds produced by the farmers. Moreover, as stated by the Department, the State Governments will assess the requirement of fodder seeds and make an agreement for 3-5 years with a seed supplying agency for rates of seed (Crop-wise) to be supplied, including transportation cost up to delivery place, for each year. Time frame for supply of seeds is also decided with seed supplying agency. The seed supplying agencies in turn will make a buy-back arrangement of fodder seeds produced by the farmers and that there is no mechanism to regulate prices which are market linked. The Committee, therefore, desire the Department to become proactive in the proper implementation of this scheme. They also desire the Department to take up the issue of removal of encroachments and upgradation of the classified wastelands which could be put to fodder crop production, reduce the wide gap in demand and supply as the Department had admitted the importance of feed and fodder in sustaining productivity of the livestock sector. They further desire the Department to assess the requirement of fodder seeds in the Country to generate more employment opportunities for the landless and poor farmers.

Reply of the Government:

Fodder and feed is obtained from a variety of sources including cultivation of fodder varieties, crop residues, dual-purpose crops, trees, forest areas, grasslands, etc. Most of these sources are not exclusive contributors to feed and fodder owing to different competing uses. Therefore, it has not been possible to capture reliable data on availability of feed and fodder. However, the efforts of the Department have definitely

resulted into improvement in the availability of feed and fodder in the Country. Although the report of the Working Group on Animal Husbandry for the 12th Five Year Plan has mentioned about increase in availability of various types of feed and fodder over the last two decades, but there is a need to further increase the availability of feed and fodder so as to reduce the gap between demand and availability, which is necessary to sustain productivity of the livestock sector.

This Department has requested Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for assessment of consumption of Feed and Fodder under the NSSO. They have intimated that this will be considered by the Working Group on NSS 70th Round (Jan. 2013 – June 2013).

The component of 'Seed Procurement and Distribution' under the Centrally Sponsored Fodder and Feed Development Scheme provides for a buy-back arrangement by the Seed Supplying Agencies with the farmers. The guidelines under this component also provide for distribution of seeds so procured by the Seed Supplying Agencies to the farmers free of cost. States have been advised to expand implementation of this component of the scheme to increase production and availability of fodder seeds. Steps are being taken to strengthen implementation of this Scheme.

The issue of use of cultivable wasteland for fodder crop production is being taken up by the Department with the State Governments by way of providing 100% assistance under the component of 'Grasslands Development including Grass Reserves' under the 'Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Fodder and Feed Development'. The advisory issued by this department to the State Governments regarding various steps to be taken for increasing availability of fodder and feed includes advice on optimum utilization of land resources, improvement of grasslands/wastelands and other community lands.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.23 of Chapter I of this Report.

CHAPTER V

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWAITED

EMPLOYMENT POTENTIAL OF LIVESTOCK SECTOR

(Recommendation Para 2.50)

Their examination of this subject reveals that there have been no systematic and specific studies on the level of employment and its potential in the livestock sector. They are dismayed to note that on different aspects the Department is relying on different NSSO studies. These varied sources however, point out that in Rural areas 61 females are primarily engaged in Animal farming as against 21 males per thousand work force. In urban areas these figures are at 25 females against 7 males per thousand. A total of 24.6 million are engaged in animal farming 18.6% million women against 6 million men constituting 75.6 percent. Similarly, there have been no detailed studies on the labour requirement for rearing of cattle and buffaloes. They also note that as per Livestock Census 2007 (Provisional Report) the total man power requirement for full day employment works out to 33.1 million, 26.6 million for livestock and 6.5 million for poultry sectors. While recognising that success of Operation Flood Programme proved that livestock farmers are receptive to new ideas and technologies, the Committee desire the Department to infuse more funds and innovative ideas to tap the employment potential of the livestock sector to the fullest so that not only this sector's contribution is enhanced but also the nation continues to maintain its supremacy in this aspect in the world. They also desire that along with the livestock

census a study to assess the employment potential of the livestock sector may also be undertaken. They would like to be apprised of the action taken in the matter.

Reply of the Government:

National Sample Survey Office, NSSO, a premier organization in the conduct of sample surveys, conducts quinquennial surveys on employment and unemployment situation and provides sector-wise information on employment generated, including in the Animal Husbandry sector. NSS has conducted the last survey on employment and unemployment situation in their 68th Round (2011-12). The results of the survey would be available by June 2013. The Technical Committee on 19th Livestock Census has therefore decided to wait and use the results of the 68th round of NSSO on Employment Generation through livestock sector and not to duplicate the work in 19th Livestock Census.

[Letter No.25-5(2)/2012-AHD (Coord) dated 21st August, 2012]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.19 of Chapter I of this Report.

**NEW DELHI;
29 November, 2013
08 Agrahayana, 1935, (Saka)**

**BASUDEB ACHARIA
Chairman
Committee on Agriculture**

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

(2013-14)

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 29 October, 2013 from 1100 hours to 1325 hours in Committee Room 'C' (G/F), Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Basudeb Acharia - Chairman

MEMBERS

LOKSABHA

2. Shri Sanjay Singh Chauhan
3. Shri H.D. Devegowda
4. Smt. Paramjit Kaur Gulshan
5. Shri Premdas Katheria
6. Shri P. Kumar
7. Smt. Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi
8. Sardar Sukhdev Singh Libra
9. Dr. Jyoti Mirdha
10. Shri Kachhadia Naranbhai
11. Dr. Vinay Kumar Pandey 'Vinnu'
12. Shri Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

13. Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi
14. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan
15. Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao
16. Shri Parshottam Khodabhai Rupala
17. Shri Rajpal Singh Saini
18. Shri S. Thangavelu
19. Shri Darshan Singh Yadav

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Shri A. Louis Martin | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Smt. Abha Singh Yadhuvanshi | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri T.H. Rao | - | Additional Director |
| 4. | Shri C. Vanlalruata | - | Deputy Secretary |

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members to the Sitting of the Committee. Then, the Committee took up for consideration the following;

- * (i) xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx
 xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx
- * (ii) xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx
 xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx

(iii) Memorandum No. 04 pertaining to the draft Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Thirty-sixth Report of the Committee on Agriculture (2011-12) on Optimization of Employment generation Potential of Animal Husbandry Sector of Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries);

3. After some deliberations, the Committee approved the categorization of action taken replies as shown in the Memoranda and adopted the draft Reports without any modification. They authorized the Chairman to present these Reports to Parliament after getting them factually verified from the concerned Departments.

- *4. xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx
 xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx.
- *5. xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx
 xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx xxx.

The Committee then adjourned.

***Matter not related to this Report.**

(Vide Para 4 of Introduction of the Report)

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE THIRTY-SIXTH REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (2011-12) ON OPTIMIZATION OF EMPLOYMENT GENERATION POTENTIAL OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY SECTOR PERTAINING TO MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES)

(i)	Total number of Recommendations	23
(ii)	Recommendations/Observations which have been Accepted by the Government	
	Para Nos. 1.14, 2.44, 2.45, 2.46, 2.48, 2.49, 2.51, 2.52 2.53, 2.54, 3.29, 3.30, 3.31, 3.33, 3.34 and 3.35	
	Total	16
	Percentage	70%
(iii)	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee Do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies	
	Para No. 3.32	
	Total	01
	Percentage	4%
(iv)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee	
	Para Nos. 1.15, 1.16, 2.47, 2.55 and 2.56	
	Total	05
	Percentage	22%
(v)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Final replies of the Government are still awaited	
	Para Nos. 2.50	
	Total	01
	Percentage	4%